

In the Claims:

- 1.(currently amended)            A method of deactivating an allergen from the mite species Der f1 or Der p1, the method comprising the step of:  
   dispersing into an airspace an allergen-deactivating amount of an allergen-deactivating compound, said compound (~~hereinafter the “deactivant”~~), ~~the deactivant~~ being provided in the form of an oil-in-water emulsion comprising at least 8% weight of a deactivant (~~wt. deactivant/wt. emulsion~~), said emulsion ~~and~~ being dispersed into the airspace as a vapour.
- 2.(currently amended)            A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the allergen-deactivating compound ~~deactivant~~ is dispersed into the airspace over a period of at least 30 minutes.
- 3.(currently amended)            A method according to ~~as claimed in~~ claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the dispersal is aided by heat applied to the emulsion.
- 4.(currently amended)            A method according to claim 1 ~~as claimed in any preceding claim~~, wherein the allergen-deactivating compound ~~deactivant~~ is selected from:
  - a terpene hydrocarbon;
  - a citrus oil;
  - a mint oil;
  - bois de rose oil;
  - oil of jasmine;
  - frankincense;
  - oil of bergamot;
  - oil of lemon grass;
  - or a component thereof.

- 5.(currently amended) A method according to claim 1 ~~as claimed in any preceding claim,~~ wherein the allergen-deactivating compound ~~deactivant~~ comprises a terpene hydrocarbon.
- 6.(currently amended) A method according to claim 1 ~~as claimed in any preceding claim,~~ wherein the allergen-deactivating compound ~~deactivant~~ comprises  $\beta$ -pinene.
- 7.(currently amended) A method according to claim 1 ~~as claimed in any preceding claim,~~ wherein the allergen-deactivating compound ~~deactivant~~ comprises orange oil or a component thereof.
- 8.(currently amended) A method of deactivating an allergen at a locus, the method comprising the step of providing ~~The use of~~ an oil-in-water emulsion ~~in deactivating an allergen at a locus, the emulsion comprising~~ an allergen deactivant present in a concentration of 10-15% wt./wt. of emulsion, and heating the said emulsion with a heat source ~~being used~~ to accelerate the vaporization of the deactivant.
- 9.(currently amended) An allergen-deactivating oil-in-water emulsion comprising at least 8%weight of a volatile deactivant (~~wt. deactivant/wt. emulsion~~), wherein the deactivant is selected from:
- a mint oil;
  - bois de rose oil;
  - oil of jasmine;
  - frankincense;
  - oil of bergamot;
  - oil of lemon grass;
  - or a component thereof.